



MITFORD & LAUNDITCH  
R.D.C.

## ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

*Medical Officer of Health*

and the

*Public Health Inspector*

1963



STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

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COUNCIL OFFICES

THE GUILDHALL,

EAST DEREHAM,

NORFOLK.

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MITFORD AND LAUNDITCH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1969

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for 1969.

The Rural District of Mitford and Launditch situated in mid Norfolk covers 102,371 acres, and comprises some 47 parishes. Agriculture is the main industry with associated machinery production. There is a small shoe assembly workshop, a poultry breeding establishment, three poultry processing establishments and four slaughter houses.

GENERAL STATISTICS:

Area in acres	102,371
Estimated mid year population 1969	18,480
Estimated mid year population 1968	18,350
Rateable value at 1st April, 1969	£342,082
Estimated product of Penny Rate	£1447. 13s. Od.

The estimated mid year population for 1969 was 18,480. This is an increase of 130 over the 1968 population. There were 241 births and 181 deaths, giving a natural increase of 60. Hence the increased population means 70 new residents took up their abode in the area.

The birth rate 14.4 is still below the national birth rate. There were 3 deaths under 1 year of age; two of which occurred during the first week of life.

There were 15 illegitimate live births, the same number as in 1968, that is 6.2% of the live births.

VITAL STATISTICS:

	<u>1969</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>ENGLAND &amp; WALES</u>
Live Births	241	247	
Live Birth Rate per 1000 population (adjusted)	14.4	14.94	16.3
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births.	6.22%	6.07%	
Still births	5	2	
Total still and live births	246	249	
Infant deaths (deaths under 1 year)	3	4	
Infant Mortality Rates			
Total infant deaths per 1000 live births.	12.45	16.19	18.00
Legitimate infant deaths per 1000 legitimate live births.	13.27	17.24	
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1000 illegitimate live births.	-	-	
Neonatal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1000 live births)	8.29	8.10	12.00
Early neonatal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1000 live births)	8.29	4.05	10.00
Perinatal mortality rate (still births and deaths under 1 week) per 1000 total births.	28.45	12.14	23.00
Maternal mortality	-	-	
Deaths all ages	181	254	
Death rate (adjusted) per 1000 population	7.9	10.38	11.90

CAUSES OF DEATH

	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Enteritis and other diarrhoeal diseases	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, stomach.	7	2	9
Malignant Neoplasm, intestine	4	2	6
Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus	4	2	6
Malignant Neoplasm, breast	-	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm, uterus	-	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm, prostate	2	-	2
Other Malignant Neoplasms	2	5	7
Benign and unspecified Neoplasms	-	1	1
Diabetes Mellitus	-	2	2
Other Endocrine etc. diseases	-	1	1
Mental disorders	1	-	1
Other diseases of nervous system etc.	-	1	1
Hypertensive disease	1	1	2
Ischaemic Heart disease	25	18	43
Other forms of heart disease	7	15	22
Cerebrovascular disease	7	18	25
Other diseases of circulatory system	3	4	7
Pneumonia	10	6	16
Bronchitis and emphysema	6	3	9
Asthma	2	-	2
Peptic ulcer	1	-	1
Cirrhosis of liver	-	1	1
Other diseases of digestive system	3	-	3
Other diseases, Genito-Urinary system	1	1	2
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal system	-	2	2
Congenital anomalies	1	-	1
Other cases of Perinatal mortality	-	2	2
Symptoms and ill defined conditions	1	-	1
Motor vehicle accidents	1	-	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	90	91	181
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

There were 6 deaths from lung cancer, that is 17.7% of all cancer deaths were due to lung cancer. 18.78% of all deaths were due to cancer, while ischaemic heart disease accounted for 23.8% of all deaths. The following table shows the incidence by age and sex of deaths from ischaemic heart disease.

	35-45	45-54	55-64	65-74	Over 75
Male	1	2	3	8	11
Female	-	-	1	5	12
Totals	1	2	4	14	23

It will be seen that unlike the picture presented in the big cities, the main age group affected is the over seventy-five years.

There were 11 deaths under the age of 45 years and of these 3 occurred under the age of 1 year. Over 80% of deaths occurred over the age of 65 years, and 57.45% of deaths were in the over 75 years age group.

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASES:

	1969	1968	1967	1966
Measles	14	46	152	279
Acute Pneumonia	-	3	2	1
Erysipelas	-	1	-	-
Infective Hepatitis	-	1	3	6
Dysentery	9	-	4	-
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-	1

#### Measles

There were less measles notifications in 1969 than in previous years. Innoculation against measles had been introduced in 1968 and continued during 1969. Supplies of the vaccine were limited in the latter half of the year due to one firm ceasing to manufacture its product.

## Other Infectious Disease

As is seen, 9 cases of dysentery and 1 case of Scarlet Fever were reported and show a very healthy state of the community.

There were no cases of Whooping Cough.

### IMMUNISATION SCHEDULES:

In 1968 the immunisation schedules were changed. Primary immunisation against whooping cough, diphtheria and tetanus (Triple antigen) is commenced in the third or fourth month of life, the second dose is given two months later, and the third dose six months after this. This scheme gives adequate protection so the "Booster" injection of antigen 13 months after the primary course is no longer necessary.

A reinforcing dose of Diphtheria/Tetanus antigen given at the age of 5 years boosts the level of immunity. In the penultimate term a further reinforcing dose of tetanus toxoid is given to school leavers. It is advisable to maintain a high level of personal immunity in an area where agriculture is still an important industry and where people still take pleasure in gardening, particularly in some of the new housing estates on the site of cottage properties or land which had been farmed over the years.

### Number of children under sixteen years immunised against Diphtheria, Tetanus and Whooping Cough.

Type of vaccine	Course	Birth year							Total
		1969	1968	1967	1966	1962 - 1965	Others under 16		
Diphtheria, Tetanus & Whooping Cough	Primary Reinforcing	6 -	68 25	6 57	1 3	- 12	- -	81 97	
Diphtheria & Tetanus	Primary Reinforcing	- -	- -	- 2	- -	18 243	3 49	21 294	
Diphtheria	Primary Reinforcing	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 10	- 9	- 19	
Tetanus	Primary Reinforcing	- -	- -	- 2	- 3	4 10	31 132	35 147	

Measles vaccination:

Birth year	1969	1968	1967	1966	1962-65	Others Under 16	Total
Totals	-	9	23	16	60	78	186

Poliomyelitis vaccination:

Birth year	1969	1968	1967	1966	1962-65	Others Under 16	Total
Primary Reinforcing	5 -	62 14	7 15	1 1	23 266	3 186	101 482

Smallpox vaccination:

Age at date of vaccination	Number vaccinated	Number revaccinated
0-3 months	2	-
3-6 months	1	-
6-9 months	-	-
9-12 months	-	-
1 year	67	-
2-4 years	25	2
5-15 years	15	8
	110	10

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER Number of persons on the register at the end of the following years.

		1969	1968	1967	1966
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Male	23	23	23	24
	Female	12	11	14	14
	Total	35	34	37	38
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Male	11	13	12	13
	Female	18	19	21	23
	Total	29	32	33	36
	Grand Total	64	66	70	74

Routine medical inspections are carried out under the above Regulations on all school children on entry, in the tenth year and in the penultimate year of school attendance. Handicapped pupils are seen annually and every endeavour is made to ensure that these pupils may benefit from the educational facilities provided. The School Medical Officer attends each school annually.

A routine screening test of hearing and of vision is carried out on all six year old children. Minor degrees of hearing loss or minor visual defects must be detected early so that remedial treatment may be instituted, thus preventing serious interference with normal development of learning processes.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT 1946

The Norfolk County Council acting under the above legislation provides under S.22-25 the following services:-

S.22 The care, including dental care, of expectant and nursing mothers and children under 5 years of age not attending primary schools. This includes the provision of child health clinics. Clinics are held at villages on the days stated. A Medical Officer attends at the times stated.

Hockering	Village Hall	1st Tuesday each month.
Litcham	Methodist Chapel	1st Thursday each month.
North Elmham	War Memorial	2nd Tuesday each month.
	Institute	(no Medical Officer)
Mattishall	Church Hall	2nd Tuesday each month.
Shipdham	Church Hall	2nd Thursday each month.
Whissonsett	Village Hall	3rd Tuesday each month.

The Health Visitor is in attendance at each Clinic from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Routine medical inspection of well babies and vaccination and immunisation is provided. The routine inspection of well babies by staff especially trained in developmental paediatrics can lead to the early detection of the slight deviation from normal. Thus serious handicap may be prevented by the provision of early remedial treatment. Any deviations thus discovered are referred to the General Practitioner.

S.29 Home Help Service.

75 cases were assisted continuously. Of these 71 were sick aged and infirm. 2 were blind and two were to provide care for children temporarily deprived of maternal care.

The community is greatly indebted to this gallant army of ladies who provide such a valuable service. Without their help the geriatric wards of hospitals would be utterly overwhelmed. The demands made on the patience and tact of these ladies by some elderly people is unbelievable and the conditions in which they are asked to work are often indescribable, and yet many Home Helps give far more than they receive. There is a need for increased members and for extension of the service to cover night sitters in and home visitors.

HOUSING:

33 Council dwellings were erected during the year and eleven Council dwellings were under construction at the end of the year. 152 private dwellings were completed and occupied and 748 plans were submitted for approval under the Building Regulations 1965.

The Factories Act 1937 & 1948

Part I.

1. Inspection for purposes of provision as to health.

	Number on Register	Inspect- tions	Number of written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories in which Section 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by the local authority.	7	15	-	-
Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority.	44	33	-	-
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority.	-	-	-	-
Total	51	48	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found:-

	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Want of cleanliness	2	2		
Overcrowding				
Unreasonable temperature				
Inadequate ventilation				
Ineffective drainage of floor	1	1		
Sanitary conveniences				
(a) Insufficient				
(b) Unsuitable or defective				
(c) Not separate for sexes				
Other offences against the Act				
Total	3	3		

OUTWORK

Nature	No. of out-workers in Aug. list required by Section 133 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council.	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists.	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises.	Notices	Prosecution
Making of boxes or other receptacles	3	-	-	-	-	-

Finally, I would like to thank all members of the staff of the Rural District Council and of the Health Office without whose help this report would not have been produced, and also the members of the Public Health Committee and the Council for their patience and continued support.

I have the honour to be

Your Obedient Servant,

L.G. Poole  
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H.



MITFORD AND LAUNDITCH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR 1969

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for 1969.

## SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Public sewers are available in the built up areas of North Elmham, Litcham, Hockering, Shipdham, Mattishall, East Tuddenham and Yaxham.

It is the policy of the Council to allow householders on the line of any main sewer a reasonable time after it becomes operational to connect to same. After a date decided by the Council, the free weekly nightsoil collection and twice yearly septic tank emptying services are withdrawn. These services have been withdrawn in previous years from North Elmham, Litcham, Hockering and Shipdham, and it is proposed to discontinue the services from Mattishall on 31st March, 1970, East Tuddenham 31st July 1970, and Yaxham 30th November, 1970.

Upper Tud Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme  
(Mattishall, Mattishall Burgh, East Tuddenham,  
Yaxham, including Clint Green).

The scheme was completed in November, 1969.

Middle Wensum Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme  
(Swanton Morley including Woodgate; Lyng; Elsing  
(Mill Street and Fusty Weed); Bawdeswell).

The informal enquiry was held at the Council Offices on the 25th February, 1969 but up to the end of the year Ministry approval had not been received.

White Mill Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme  
(Beetley, Gressenhall, Wendling and Scarning).

The scheme is programmed to follow on after the Middle Wensum.

Bintree Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme

The Foulsham sewage treatment works of the St.Faith's and Aylsham Rural District became operational in 1969, and it is proposed to drain Bintree into it, as and when the provision of main drainage for Bintree falls due in the selected order of priorities, previously determined by the Council.

Guist Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme

The design of the scheme was completed in outline and was submitted to the Ministry, but at the end of the year approval had not been received.

Scarning Sewer Maintenance

During the winter months the overland section of Scarning Sewer still has to be flushed in an effort to ensure a free flow of drainage.

Every effort is made to persuade householders and owners of properties served by any sewer to connect, and to this end the Council are prepared to give Improvement Grants for the installation of modern amenities, or, alternatively, grants are given for the conversion of pail closets into water closets.

At the end of the year the position with regard to connections was as follows:-

	N.Elmham	Litcham	Hockering	Shipdham
Private properties connected	260	109	59	304
Council properties connected	79	70	60	144
Total properties connected	339	179	119	448
Properties existing when scheme designed (a)	241	211	91	309
Properties for which scheme designed (b)	309	290	109	415
Percentage connected in relation to design	110%	62%	110%	108%
Number which will be connected when all approved private and Council development completed	397	218	162	605
Percentage of design relative to approved development	132%	79%	150%	146%
Applications for closet conversions received during the year	-	-	-	5
Closets converted during the year	-	-	-	1

	Mattishall	Yaxham	East Tuddenham
Private properties connected	159	36	10
Council properties connected	84	41	38
Total properties connected	243	77	48
Properties existing when scheme designed (a)		543	
Properties for which scheme designed (b)		1287	
Percentage connected in relation to design		42%	
Number which will be connected when all approved private and Council development completed		858	
Percentage of design relative to approved development		66%	
Applications for closet conversions received during the year	4	2	1
Closets converted during the year	-	4	-

In general the arrangements for sewerage and sewage disposal in the district are far from adequate. This is made evident by the fact that the main drainage systems at Elham, Hockering and Shipdham are already working in excess of maximum design capacity, plust the fact that 368 connections to the Upper Tud scheme were made during the year.

When all the properties for which planning applications have been approved are connected to the sewers, Elham will be 32% overloaded, Hockering will be 50% overloaded and Shipdham will be 46% overloaded. Bearing in mind that the first scheme at Elham only became operational in 1963, it is, in my opinion, abundantly clear that the potential development of other areas in the district is being greatly restricted owing to the non availability of main drainage and every priority should be given to providing these facilities immediately. Meantime, consideration will undoubtedly have to be given to extending the sewage disposal works in the three villages which will soon be considerably overloaded.

It has been common practice in the area for many years to allow the construction of septic tanks with the effluent soaking into the land by sub-surface irrigation. In remote positions, where only one property is involved and is situated in extensive grounds, such as an isolated farmhouse, this method may reasonably be adopted if the ground conditions are suitable and the discharge is remote from ditches and water supply. However, where such an installation is constructed in the back garden of modern development, with sub-surface drains connecting with, or laying very close to, a ditch, it is obvious that the highly polluted effluent from the septic tank can cause serious pollution and nuisance problems. It is held by authorities on sewage treatment that this method of disposal should not be permitted as it resembles the construction of a cesspool with an overflow which allows polluting liquor to pass into the surrounding ground.

The method of treatment advocated is that of passing the settled septic tank liquor over a biological filter. After such treatment it is suitable for discharge to a ditch or, if this is not available, to a properly designed sub-surface irrigation area in suitable land. The Ministry of Housing and Local Government's "Memorandum on Principles of Design of Small Sewage Treatment Works" considers land treatment should only be adopted where the construction of a biological filter is not practicable and where the site of the treatment plant is sufficiently distant from dwellings. Because of the many instances in this district where septic tanks are causing concern, I consider that the general improvement in standards of sewage treatment should be extended to small installations and in future only septic tanks followed by biological filters be allowed for the treatment of domestic drainage.

## PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES

From the 1st April, 1969 the South Norfolk and North West Norfolk Water Boards became responsible for the supply of water in the various parishes of the Rural District forming part of the respective Water Undertakings - comprising in total approximately two-thirds of the Rural Area. Mitford and Launditch Rural District Council did, however, remain caretakers for the rest of the year, pending the setting up of the necessary administrative establishment.

A tabulated summary of the villages supplied with mains water is appended, together with the relevant details applicable in each case as set out under the various headings. Those villages marked with an \*, have as their source of supply, an individual bore in each village, with the exception of Beetley where the bore supplies water for all the villages in the Central Parishes Scheme. As far as the remainder are concerned, water is purchased in bulk from adjoining Local Authorities.

During the year the following extensions were carried out:-

<u>Wendling</u>	- Station Lane	- South Norfolk
<u>Scarning</u>	- Rushmeadow Road	- South Norfolk
<u>Mattishall</u>	- Cemetery Road & Back Lane extension of village supply for private development	- <del>North West Norfolk</del> <i>Norwich area.</i>
<u>Stanfield</u>	- Whissonsett Road - group of isolated properties	- North West Norfolk
<u>Shipdham</u>	- Pound Green - extension of village and supply for private and Council estates	- South Norfolk
<u>North Elmham to Billingford</u>	link and extension to Worthing village	- North West Norfolk
<u>Mattishall</u>	- North Tuddenham and Clippings Green	- extension started

All the above work was undertaken by direct labour.

19 bacteriological samples were submitted for analysis in connection with these schemes.



WATER STATISTICS

<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>PREMISES WITH MAIN AVAILABLE</u>	<u>NO. OF CONNEC- TIONS</u>	<u>ESTIMATED POPULATION</u>	<u>% CONNECTED</u>	<u>GALLONS PUMPED</u>
DUNHAMS	176	160	515	90	-
*HOCKERING	133	120	386	90	2,000,000
*ROUGHAM	68	68	221	100	1,460,000
*ELMHAM <sup>1</sup>	467	438	1410	93	7,300,000
*LITCHAM	225	202	650	90	5,475,000
*MILEHAM	118	106	341	90	3,650,000
*BEESTON	115	96	303	83	5,475,000
*WEASENHAM	162	150	483	92	5,475,000
*TITTLESHALL	102	98	319	97	1,825,000
HARDINGHAM (PART OF)	68	65	209	95	
SPARHAM	82	76	244	92	
<u>MATTISHALL SCHEME</u>					
MATTISHALL	468	440	1416	94	8,000,000
EAST TUDDENHAM	103	98	315	95	
<u>LYNG SCHEME</u>					
LYNG	130	116	373	89	
<u>SOUTHERN PARISHES SCHEME</u>					
<u>NORTHERN ROUTE</u>					
WENDLING	95	84	270	88	
SCARNING	183	170	547	92	
FRANSHAM GREAT	74	49	157	73	
FRANSHAM LITTLE	78	78	150	100	
<u>SOUTHERN ROUTE</u>					
SHIPDHAM	555	495	593	89	
CRANWORTH	103	99	319	96	
WHINBURGH WESTFIELD	86	80	257	93	
YAXHAM	197	185	595	93	
GARVESTONE	169	144	463	85	
HARDINGHAM (PART)	30	30	96	100	

KEY - G.P.H. GALLON PER HEAD.

E. ESTIMATED.

+ PART ESTIMATED

<u>GALLONS PURCHASED</u>	<u>GALLONS USED</u>	<u>AVERAGE G.P.H. PER DAY</u>	<u>AVERAGE GALLONS PER DAY</u>	<u>NUMBER OF METERS</u>	<u>GALLONS BY METER</u>
2,700,000 E	2,700,000 E	14.36	7,397	15	1,300,000
	2,000,000	15.00	5,790	7	400,000
	1,460,000	18.09	4,000	5	280,000
	7,300,000	14.18	20,000	20	929,000
	5,475,000	23.05	14,986	10	958,000
	3,650,000	29.32	10,000	15	1,989,000
	5,475,000	49.50	15,000	19	7,036,000
	5,475,000	31.05	15,000	7	1,033,000
	1,825,000	15.67	5,000	7	269,000
2,500,000 E	2,500,000 E	32.77	6,849	16	984,000
1,000,000 E	2,000,000 E	22.45	5,479	5	915,000
	8,000,000 E	11.96	21,917		1,500,000
				7	
				7	173,000
9,500,000 E	9,500,000 E	25.41	26,027		
				4	474,000
				21	1,409,000
				23	1,838,000
79,000,000	29,000,000	10.82	79,452		
12,000,000	12,000,000	2063	32,876	39	1,401,000
				13	557,000
				2	85,000
				6	68,000
				18	565,000
				21	440,000

WATER STATISTICS (CONTINUED)

<u>VILLAGE</u>	<u>PREMISES WITH MAIN AVAILABLE</u>	<u>NO. OF CONNEC- TIONS</u>	<u>ESTIMATED POPULATION</u>	<u>% CONNECTED</u>	<u>GALLONS PUMPED</u>
<u>NORTH EASTERN PARISHES SCHEME</u>					
BAWDESWELL	145	141	454	97	
BINTREE & TWYFORD	104	77	247	74	
FOXLEY	75	69	220	92	
GUIST	84	72	231	85	
BILLINGFORD	86	78	250	90	
<u>CENTRAL PARISHES SCHEME</u>					33,066,700
BEETLEY	175	141	454	84	
BRISLEY	78	72	231	92	
GRESSENHALL	254	222	714	87	
HORNINGTOFT	47	40	128	85	
LONGHAM	56	53	170	94	
STANFIELD	34	26	83	76	
EAST BILNEY	32	31	99	97	
HOE	42	42	135	100	
SWANTON MORLEY	292	246	792	84	
WHISSONSETT	170	160	515	94	
COLKIRK	190	170	547	89	
OXWICK	20	19	61	95	
TOTALS.....	5,839	5,377	17,172	92	73,660,000
GALLONS PASSED ON TO E.DEREHAM U.D.C.					



### TREATMENT

The treatment carried out to the various schemes is as follows:-

<u>Southern Parishes</u>	-	softened, filtered, chlorinated and deironed.
<u>North Eastern</u>	-	deironed, filtered and chlorinated.

With regard to individual village schemes, iron removal and filtration plants were in use at the beginnong of the year in eight villages.

Households without a mains supply derive their domestic water from wells and bores.

Little or no lead piping is used for domestic water supplies and problems of plumbo-solvent action do not therefore arise.

## WATER SAMPLES

### PUBLIC SUPPLIES

Forty two bacteriological samples were taken from village water mains in current use. All were reported as being satisfactory.

In addition, one sample was submitted for chemical analysis by the Public Analyst, who reported the bore to be satisfactory. The Fluoride content in parts per million of the various waters sampled over the years is as follows:-

North Elmham	0.1	-	Shipdham	0.3
Fransham	0.15	-	Rougham	Nil
Beeston	0.10	-	Swanton Morley	0.25
Colkirk	0.05	-	Tittleshall	0.05
Litcham	0.05	-	Whissonsett	0.16
Lyng	0.05	-	Mattishall	0.1
Hockering	0.1	-	Mileham	0.08
Beetley	Nil	-	Weasenham	Nil

One part per million is the appropriate level for the prevention of dental decay, and as will be observed from the above figures each supply falls far short of the figure.

The effectiveness of the iron removal plant is illustrated by the fact that the iron content has been reduced from 3.4 to 0.16 parts per million at the Whissonsett bore.

The water from Beetley bore which is the source of the Central Parishes supply contains 0.24 parts per million in its raw state but after treatment contains 0.05 parts per million.

### PRIVATE SUPPLIES

It was not necessary to make any emergency arrangements due to the failure of private wells. During the year 30 samples were taken, which were classified as follows:-

Wells	-	5 satisfactory
	-	13 unsatisfactory
	-	0 suspicious
Bores	-	9 satisfactory
	-	3 unsatisfactory

## CLEANSING SCHEME

The Council operate a fortnightly house refuse collection and a weekly nightsoil collection. Two free septic tank emptyings per financial year are also available in those localities which are not served by any public sewer. Properties on the line of any public sewer which have not connected to same can still, however, receive nightsoil servicing or septic tank emptying on a pre-payment basis.

At the beginning of the year the vehicle fleet consisted of four cesspool emptying machines, two being used for nightsoil collection, one for septic tank emptying and the remaining one for servicing village sewers and housing site works. In addition, there are three refuse collection vehicles (two being in constant use and one kept as a replacement in case of a breakdown or the temporary withdrawal of a vehicle for servicing and repair). The spare vehicle is also in use for 4 days per 10 day round on account of the increase in the number of bins per property.

With one exception, viz. the spare refuse collection vehicle, the existing fleet of vehicles would not comply, nor could be modified to comply, with the Vehicles Construction and Use and Braking and Plating Regulations, 1968. It was therefore decided to purchase 3 new tanker vehicles, 2 of 1,000 gal. and one of 1,500 gal. capacity, in the financial year 1968/69. Early in 1969 delivery of the replacement tankers was completed and the two Norba refuse collection vehicles arrived later in the year.

Two refuse disposal tips are used by this Council and are maintained and levelled by means of a tractor with a bulldozer blade and rear hydraulic bucket attachment. Maintenance of all vehicles is carried out by direct labour at the Council depot at Rushmeadow Road, Scarning.

### Dustbins

On 31st December, 1969 there were 1,263 Council dwellings in occupation all of which were provided with a dustbin, as part of their tenancy agreement. In addition, a hire scheme for private dwellings is available at an annual rental of 6/- per bin. During the year under review 32 were issued making a total of 431.

1827 septic tanks were emptied in 1969 as against 1874 in 1968. From 1949 to 1959 cleansing was done by contract, but since the 1st June, 1959 it has been carried out by direct labour. The slight decrease in the number of septic tank emptyings over the last 3 years is attributable, in my opinion, to the availability of main drainage in North Elmham, Litcham, Shipdham and Hockering.

Each year a number of properties that are not on the line of any proposed main drainage scheme have septic tanks constructed. This means that these properties, being more isolated, take comparatively longer to service, as the operators spend more time travelling to and from the dwellings and to the tipping sites.

The number of septic tanks emptied each year since cleansing has been operated by direct labour is as follows:-

1959	1,538
1960	1,697
1961	2,005
1962	2,124
1963	2,279
1964	2,054
1965	1,950
1966	1,867
1967	1,878
1968	1,874
1969	1,827

Of the 1,827 serviced in the year under review, it is interesting to note that 1,382 emptyings were to private houses and 445 to Council houses, of which 208 servicings took place at Bawdeswell.

HOUSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

Number of complaints investigated	... 47
Number of inspections and re-inspections	... 81
Number of moveable dwellings inspected	... 48
Informal requests to carry out work of repair, etc.	... 25
Work completed as a result of above	... 17
Statutory Notices served	... 1
Number of houses considered incapable of being made fit at a reasonable expense	... 28
Demolition Orders made	... 8
Closing Orders made	... Nil
Undertakings not to relet accepted	... 8

SLUM CLEARANCE PROGRAMME

Number of houses scheduled in the Council's return to the Ministry in 1955	... 689
Number of houses added since that date	... 191
Revised Total	880
Number of houses removed from programme (Schemes of repair and renovation)	... 71
Number of houses to be dealt with officially	... 809
Number of houses dealt with to 31st December, 1968	... 631
Number of houses dealt with in 1969	... 28
Total dealt with to 31st December 1968	... 659
Number of houses on programme at 31st December, 1968.	... 150

The following is a summary of action taken since the Slum Clearance report in 1955.

Families rehoused by Council	... 205
Families awaiting rehousing in condemned dwellings	... 70
Families who have found own accommodation	... 70
Elderly families to be left undisturbed	... 18
Vacant at time of official action	... 183
Council dwellings in course of construction at end of year	... 11
Number of houses actually demolished since 1955	... 241
Number of Closing Orders made since 1955	... 91
Number of Undertakings accepted since 1955	... 89

Of the 70 families awaiting rehousing, 10 had applied for Council accommodation while 60 had not.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Preliminary visits and consultation (both schemes)	1969	201
<u>Standard Grants</u>		
Total dwellings for which grant approved to date		567
Owner/occupied dwellings for which grant approved to date.		369
Total dwellings for which grant approved in 1969		67
Total dwellings work completed to date		446
Total dwellings work completed to date - owner/occupied		287
Total dwellings work completed in 1969		71
Value of grants approved to date		£111,781. 10. 0.
Value of grants approved in 1969		£16,945. 17. 4.

Summary of Items

	Bath	Shower	Basin	Hot Water	W.C.	Sink	Food Store
Proposed	481	-	500	503	531	7	341
Installed	410	-	417	423	450	-	272
<hr/>							
	Building Bathroom		Septic Tank		Bringing in cold water		
Proposed	152		252		121		
Installed	104		185		96		

Discretionary Grants

Total dwellings for which grant approved to date	...	339
Owner/occupied dwellings for which grant approved to date	...	79
Total dwellings for which grant approved during 1969	...	7
Total dwellings work completed	...	296
Total dwellings work completed - Owner/occupied	...	79
Total dwellings work completed 1969	...	9
Value of grants approved to date	£90,584.	14. 6.
Value of grants approved during 1969	£4,789.	17. 11.

### IMPROVEMENTS TO COUNCIL HOUSES

These continued during the year and on the 31st December, 1969 the position was as follows:-

#### Summary of present position

Number of Council houses originally lacking amenities	...	421
Substandard bungalow at Litcham	...	1
		<u>—</u>
Total number of Council dwellings lacking amenities	...	422
Less Council dwellings sold to tenants	...	<u>5</u>
		417
Houses converted into flatlets	...	<u>2</u>
		419

#### Dwellings improved

##### 1964

Sparham	8	
Wendling	<u>8</u>	16

##### 1965

Litcham	23	
North Elmham	14	
Westfield	4	
Cranworth	<u>8</u>	49

##### 1966

Hardingham	4	
Yaxham	10	
Great Dunham	2	
Shipdham	<u>54</u>	70

##### 1967

Hockering	6	
(Mattishall Road)		
Gressenhall	<u>4</u>	10

brought forward ... 145

Dwellings improved

1968

Elsing	8
Hockering	12
(Heath Road)	
Longham	<u>6</u>
	26

1969

North Elmham	8
(Broom Green)	
Wendling	2
Lt. Dunham	8
Gt. Dunham	3
Mattishall	8
(Norwich Road)	
Lyng	4
(2 houses into	
4 flatlets)	<u>—</u>
	33

Schemes in progress

Horningsloft	4
Mattishall	4
Burgh Lane)	
East Tuddenham	<u>8</u>
	16

Schemes in preparation

Foxley	5
Gateley	4
Stanfield	6
Lt. Fransham	6
Weasenham St. Peter	4
North Tuddenham	8
Garvestone	<u>12</u>
	45

Total completed and work in progress and preparation ... 265

Properties remaining to be dealt with ... 154

419

On 31st December 1969, 1,263 Council dwellings were in occupation.

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1961.

The position insofar as the one remaining site in the area is concerned is still the same as reported last year.

During the year 29 individual licences were in force.

No problems arose during the year due to the influx of caravanners to carry out fruit picking, as arrangements had been made to accommodate them on the site where they were working.

FOOD PREMISES

Number of food premises in the area ... 145

Number of food premises registered under

Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

(a) Ice Cream ... 65  
(b) Sausages, etc. ... 9

Number of inspections of registered food premises ... 87

Number of visits to other food premises ... 103

Only one licence to manufacture ice cream was in force in the area and this was for the manufacture and sale of soft ice cream made from a complete cold mix or a mix which has been pasteurised or sterilised and sold direct from a specially designed freezer shortly after manufacture. There are no producers in the district under the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment etc.) Regulations 1947-1952.

During the year 4 cases of foreign bodies being found in food were reported to the office and these were dealt with on an informal basis (the 4 cases referred to consisted of 2 bread, 1 meat pie and 1 sweet).

### MEAT INSPECTION

The total number of animals slaughtered in this Rural District was over one hundred less than in the previous year, but more cattle and pigs were killed, the reduction being in sheep and lambs.

The animals passing through this District's slaughterhouses were of the usual high quality and consequently little disease was found. The main reason for the rejection of most of the unfit "meat" was the parasitic infection of livers. This condition causes a considerable financial loss each year and there is still no appreciable reduction in the incidence of this disease.

Regular joint inspections are made of the four slaughterhouses with a veterinary inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and the recommendations he makes on these visits help to maintain a high standard of hygiene and repair at these premises.

### POULTRY INSPECTION

There are two poultry processing establishments in the area, registered under the Slaughter of Poultry Act, 1967 and these have a combined total annual throughput of approximately 250,000 birds. Time does not permit the regular routine inspection of poultry with existing staff available and the proprietors concerned themselves reject unfit birds.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed and inspected	2,789	2,443	5,529	Nil
<u>All diseases except</u> <u>Tuberculosis &amp; Cysticercosis:</u>				
Whole cases condemned	Nil	1	3	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	485	95	415	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis and cysticercosis.	17.4	3.9	7.5	Nil
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u>				
Whole carcases condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected with tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

	Cattle	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
<u>Cysticercosis</u> Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

In 1969, 10,761 animals were killed and inspected, an inspection increase over the 1956 figure of 10,074.

Year	ANIMALS KILLED				ANIMALS INSPECTED					Percentage inspected
	Cattle	Pigs	Sheep & Lambs	Total	Cattle	Pigs	Sheep & Lambs	Total		
1956	444	1307	485	2236	227	314	146	687	30.72	
1957	550	1431	573	2554	345	739	380	1464	57.32	
1958	523	1395	624	2542	395	1037	479	1911	75.18	
1959	493	1254	743	2490	493	1223	686	2402	96.47	
1960	1877	1630	2540	6047	1873	1618	2528	6020	99.55	
1961	2534	2385	2656	7395	2354	2385	2656	7395	100	
1962	2619	2717	2882	8218	2619	2717	2882	8218	100	
1963	3254	4197	2970	10421	3254	4197	2970	10421	100	
1964	2901	4347	3080	10328	2901	3247	3080	10328	100	
1965	2600	4737	2561	9898	2600	4737	2561	9898	100	
1966	2745	5551	2629	10925	2745	5551	2629	10925	100	
1967	2747	4281	2922	9961	2747	4281	2922	9961	100	
1968	2674	5314	2906	10894	2674	5314	2906	10894	100	
1969	2789	5529	2443	10761	2789	5529	2443	10761	100	

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Details of servicing carried out under the above Act is set out below.

PROPERTIES OTHER THAN SEWERS

1. Number of properties in district

2.a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification

b) Number infested by

- (i) Rats
- (ii) Mice

3.a) Total number of inspections carried out at properties for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification

b) Number infested by

- (i) Rats
- (ii) Mice

SEWERS

4. Were any sewers infested by rats during the year?

		TYPE OF PROPERTY	
		NON AGRICULTURAL	AGRICULTURAL
		5,474	1,237
		367	22
		362	22
		5	-
		4,985	596
		267	14
		5	-
		No	

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The enforcement of the Act's provisions does not constitute a major problem in this area as with the exception of two modern offices employing over 50 staff altogether, the remainder are small firms each having few employees and compliance with the legal requirements does not seem to have been too difficult to achieve.

It will be noted that there are fewer registered shops than at the 31st December, 1968. This appears to be due to the effect of Selective Employment Tax as in some of the small village stores it is no longer an economic proposition to employ the one or two full-time staff as in the past, the principals now managing with one part-time employee or even with no assistance at all.

The following is a tabulated summary of the work carried out under the above Act during the year.

	Class of premises	Number of premises registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year.
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
REGISTRATION AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS	Offices	4	18	12
	Retail Shops	9	23	22
	Wholesale shops, warehouses	1	2	2
	Catering establishments open to the public	1	2	1
	Fuel storage depots	2	4	3
	TOTALS	17	49	40

NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS MADE BY  
INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES - 79

PETROLEUM ACTS

One new licence was issued and 118 renewal licences were made in connection with existing installations.

FACTORIES ACT 1937 - 1948

Visits were made to factories, and details of these and action taken in respect of these regulations are included at the end of the Medical Officer of Health's Annual Report.

Mains water supplies, sewerage and sewage disposal schemes and the cleansing scheme are administered by the Engineer and Surveyor. I would like to express my appreciation to the Engineer and Surveyor and members of his staff for the helpful co-operation in making available statistics as set out under these various headings.

I have the honour to be,  
Your obedient servant,

GEORGE DAVIES

Senior Public Health Inspector.





